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Sepoy Freed R.A.M.C. Men In Middle Of Jap Camp

An escape, after capture by the advancing Japanese at Wong-Nel-Chong, through the midst of the fighting was described in a statement read before No. 5 War Crimes Court yesterday in which Sgt. T. C. Cunningham, R.A.M.C. described how a Rajput Sepoy, crawling around the trees to which four R.A.M.C. personnel were tied in the midst of a Japanese camp, cut loose their bonds.

"Apparently the Indian Sepoy had a knife in his trousers pocket with which he freed himself. Then, although he was in the centre of an armed camp, he crawled around to our trees and freed Captain Barclay, Private Evans and myself," Cunningham's statement read.

Cunningham's statement, which testified to his having seen a number of St. John's Ambulance Brigade men killed by the Japanese after they had surrendered, went on to relate how he lost contact with his two companies in the dark on Sir Cecil's Ride and had finally made his way to an outpost held by Indian troops.

The prosecution closed its case yesterday against Major General Shoji Toshishige, one of three Japanese regimental commanders who led the attack on Hong Kong Island on trial on a charge of being concerned in the ill-treatment and killing of surrendered personnel at Wong-Nel-Chong. Defence counsel asked for an adjournment until Monday, when he would present a submission of no case to answer.

A third statement by Shoji, describing the battle operations of his unit, was read into the court records.

This stated, in part: "The Shoji Butai comprised mainly of two battalions of the 230 Inf. Regt. was assigned the right flank of the 38 Infantry Group commanded by Maj. Gen. Ito, who was under the command of Lt. Gen. San. Between approximately 2150 and 2400 hours, Dec. 18, 1941, the regiment landed at a position approximately 500 to 600 metres east of North Point.

"I landed with the second wave at approximately 2210 hours the same day at a position where were placed several concrete bunkers and proceeded to the task of regrouping of arrived forces and reestablishment of attack routes and headquarters position at rendezvous. "I remained at this position for approximately 30 minutes and with the report from Capt. Sekiya, the regimental adjutant, concerning the selection of HQ position, advanced to the bank on the west side of a lake approximately 800 metres south of the landing position.

"Therefore, since the regiment had overpowered this enemy resistance, the advance would proceed as planned. The following orders were given: (a) No. 3 Battalion would attack and overpower British resistance on the right No. 1 attack route and head toward the north slope of Mt. Nicholson; (b) No. 2 Battalion would attack and overpower British resistance on the left No. 1 attack route through Jardines Lookout and head toward the five-road junction, Wong-Nel-Chong Road. Both battalions were ready for attack by approximately 0500 hours. While commanding the attack, I followed up the No. 3 Battalion with two reserve companies.

"Not only was desultory rifle fire heard from the direction of the No. 2 Battalion but suddenly from the area of the five-road junction of Wong-Nel-Chong Road three rifle fire, and movements of armoured cars were heard. At this time, about 0650 hours, thick fog rolled in and even short distances could not be seen.

Armoured Cars

"At length a report came in from the O.C., No. 3 Bn., that the forward units had encountered an advancing British force of armoured cars and were in the midst of fierce battle. The British force was steadily being reinforced. "The O.C., No. 2 Bn., reported that the British force in the area of Jardines Lookout was mainly Indian troops. Resistance was slight and the British were retreating towards the east and south-east towards front of advancing Japanese troops. The Battalion was expected to assemble in the area of the captured anti-aircraft defences.

"Following this, I immediately ordered battle preparation for No. 2 Battalion to assist the No. 3 Battalion. "At sunrise, the intense artillery fire which had commenced the previous night from the direction of the main div. force increased in vigour. Artillery fire was received from the Victoria artillery. It seemed the general advance was made under great difficulty.

"At approximately 0800 hours of the 19th, No. 3 Battalion gradually advanced and pressed the British force. While resting at a depression near the anti-aircraft defence, No. 2 Battalion was subject to sudden artillery fire from artillery situated near the north streets of the Race Course at this time. My immediate unit had completely assembled in the narrow limits of the area of

two-road junction and consequently suffered heavy losses. The shelling greatly hindered the advance. Although this shelling was sudden and fierce, it only continued till the morning of the 21st.

"On the evening of the 19th, No. 3 Battalion reinforced by one section of the reserve force, pressed the attack. Owing to the mounting resistance offered by the British forces on Mt. Nicholson and in pill boxes on the south-east slope, No. 3 Battalion suffered heavy casualties including the Battalion commander. As night fell, the position was still in enemy hands. Casualties were approximately 800.

"Thus, while waiting anxiously for the arrival of friendly forces, a cry was raised at approximately 1240 hours of the 19th that the Tanaka Butai had arrived. By standing in a fox-hole, I sighted to the east a platoon of 60 or 70 infantrymen advancing on the road running east to west.

Conservation

"The following conversation issued between myself and the platoon commander: O.C. Platoon: The Tanaka Butai is in that direction (pointing to the east) advancing and destroying the enemy. Where is the regimental commander? He is advancing with the main unit. Which way are they advancing? Towards Victoria Peak. What about the Doi Butai? We have not seen them. "This was the first occasion we had met our own troops since landing. I judged that the Doi Butai would arrive soon. Just before sunset on the 19th a report came in that the Doi Butai had arrived. But even at sunset there was no sign of them. Following this, I dispatched Intelligence Officer, Lt. Ito, to Doi Butai for liaison purpose and he returned to the unit at app. 2400 hours and submitted the following:

"He had difficulty in locating the Doi Butai and in returning to the unit. Contact had been made with the Battalion Commander of the left force of the Doi Butai. The Doi Butai had been subject to intense artillery fire from the British. They had attacked the British units advancing towards Jardines Lookout and had annihilated them. The advance was continuing. A large number of British troops were prisoners of the Doi force.

"The Shoji Butai continued the attack on the night of the 19th. Assembling of killed and wounded was put into progress, but owing to the darkness and the rain and the non-arrival of the medical unit great difficulties were encountered. Ammunition was nearly out. Operations carried out from beginning to end during the night in the vicinity of the 5-Junction, Wong-Nel-Chong Road; was by the Shoji Butai except for odd platoon patrols.

"On the evening of the 20th at app. 1800 hours Major Oyadomari Div. staff officer arrived and stated the following facts: (a) Div. HQ had been established at the hill south of Talkoo Docks; (b) The landing and advance of the main div. strength, encountering unexpected strong British resistance, had been delayed and there had been a hitch in the campaign plans; (c) Although liaison had been maintained with O.C. Ito Butai and Doi Butai, contact with Tanaka Butai had failed since the morning; (d) Because the Shoji Butai had not disposed considerable force on the right flank of the div. landing point, troops from the main div. force were dispatched to that area; (e) Rumours that the Shoji Butai had been annihilated near the 5-Junction, Wong-Nel-Chong Road, had greatly worried the div. commander and he had specially dispatched Staff Officer Oyadomari; (f) The Shoji Butai should on the 21st send a strong force to the area of Leighton Hill and in the meantime make preparation for its capture; (g) Medical units would be sent as soon as possible collect the dead and wounded. Supplies and ammunition would be replenished as soon as possible.

"I apologized for having incurred such a large casualty (app. 800) and requested that the orders for attack on Leighton Hill be given as soon as possible and wounded had been collected and supplies and ammunition had been replenished. This request was conveyed to the div. commander by sympathetic staff officer Oyadomari who returned in the afternoon. This was the first point

PUNITIVE ACTION

Nanking, Mar. 13. The Control Yuan has initiated an administrative punitive action against Pao Yu-wei, recently resigned Central Bank Governor, on charges of malfeasance in office. It is planning impeachment proceedings against the former Premier, Dr. T. V. Soong.

Soong is at the moment on holiday in Hangchow. He left Shanghai on Thursday to join Soong—United Press.

tact with the div. following the landing. "Liaison was established with the Doi, Iwabuchi and Kanki Butais on the evening of the 20th, with arrivals of patrols and liaison personnel from these units. A small unit of the Doi Butai advanced on the left flank of the No. 3 Battalion and participated in the attack.

"At app. 2100 hours on the 20th, regimental adjutant Sekiya came with a report and it was decided that the Shoji Butai advance jointly with the Doi Butai and halt the advance of the British force. The dead and wounded were assembled during the night. The slight rain which had commenced on the night of the 19th developed into torrential rain on the 20th evening and great difficulty was encountered in all movements.

"In the early morning of the 21st, the right attack platoon of No. 9 Company captured one pill box on the east side of the road. From the foxhole which I had been using on the 19th and 20th, I moved into what seemed to be the British force in the pill box. In the early morning of the 21st, the medical section arrived and took over the task of transporting the dead and wounded to the rear. By the evening of the 22nd their task had been completed.

Race Course Guns

"From early morning of the 21st our artillery commenced shelling towards the eastern defences on Jardines Lookout. We received several rounds from the Race Course artillery in the morning of the 21st. Firing stopped and was not heard from again.

"The attack on Leighton Hill by the Shoji Butai was cancelled according to orders received on the afternoon of the 21st at app. 1800 hours. At app. 1900 hours, the adjutant of the Ito Butai arrived and said that the Doi Butai were advancing and the Shoji Butai reprimanded for not advancing also.

"With our artillery in action since the 21st evening, our troops in telephone lines were active. A patrol from the Doi Butai and personnel from the Kanki Butai and other artillery units arrived for liaison purposes. The O.C., Iwabuchi Butai arrived with his unit and joined in the attack on the pill box on the morning of the 21st. On the same night the left battalion column of the Doi Butai overtook the Shoji Butai.

"The general British resistance weakened from the morning of the 22nd. It was decided that the pill box on the front should be captured by the No. 3 Battalion in cooperation with the Iwabuchi Butai. No. 2 Battalion would be sent out in a night attack to break through all fronts and advance in the direction of the Doi Butai.

"On the same night, at app. 2000 hours the Shoji Butai left the 5-Junction and commenced the advance. About 2100 hours we made contact with the retreating British forces and continued firing until dawn on the 23rd. During the night operations the Battalion Commander was wounded while the Battalion adjutant and 10 others were killed and wounded.

Heroic Defences

"Four British soldiers emerged from pill box at app. 1800 hours on the 22nd and surrendered. Using this opportunity, we advised all ranks to cease the futile resistance. Following several negotiations, the British surrendered. The heroic British defences on Wong Nei Chong Road, captured by an English Major plus 37 or 47 ranks were taken prisoner. This time of the capture is remembered as app. 1600 hours on the 23rd.

"There were several wounded among the prisoners and the medical unit promptly attended to their needs. According to their wishes, biscuits, water and cigarettes (app. 10 cigarettes) were given. The prisoners were escorted to Div. HQ with the necessary prisoner transfer document by a Kempeitai Sergeant-Major. On the way, the Sergeant-Major hospitalized three seriously wounded in the field hospital.

"During preparation for departure of prisoners I received a report of the discovery of a body of a British General Officer, who it appeared, had died as a result of a wounded fractured right leg and ruptured blood vessels. It appeared that considerable time had elapsed since death and that necessary medical supplies had been lacking. We wrapped up the body in the blanket of Lt. Okada, who had captured the position. I ordered the temporary burial of the officer on the hillside ground on which he had died so heroically. "On the morning of the 23rd Japanese artillery units prepared for the attack on the hill and the Jardines Lookout were annihilated.

Watson & Co., Ltd. Summoned

The management of 21 shops, including A.S. Watson & Company, Ltd., were summoned before Mr. d'Almeida at Central yesterday for either selling goods above the controlled price or for failing to display prices of various goods.

Mr. Armstrong pleaded not guilty on behalf of A.S. Watson & Company to selling on Feb. 20 a bottle of 100 Alophen Pills at \$4.70 cents in excess of the control price. Hearing of the case was adjourned to 2.30 p.m. on March 24.

The Po Yuen Tung Trading Company, 163 Wing Lok Street, was fined \$25 for selling a pair of Nylon stockings without

to fierce shelling from the Victoria artillery. It could be seen that particularly Leighton Hill and positions west of it were receiving concentrated artillery fire.

"On the night of the 23rd orders were received that the Div. would with utmost strength attack during the night of the 24th and defeat the enemy. The streets around the Race Course would be the advance of the Suzukiwa Butai. It was also heard that the cooperating artillery were occupying sites in the area behind the Suzukiwa Unit in preparation for active cooperation in the night attack.

"On the 24th, our aircraft bombed the general attack due on the 25th. During the night approximately 40 Indian troops surrendered.

"A report came in that the white flag had been raised from several British defences at app. 1830 hours on the 25th. At app. 1840 hours a report came stating that a military representative of the Governor, a British Lieutenant-Colonel, accompanied by an escort of men and a small dog, had arrived by truck in the area above the road captured by the No. 2 Battalion. All operations ceased on the night of the 25th.

A statement from Sgt. T. C. Cunningham, R.A.M.C. who was captured on Dec. 18, 1941, at an advanced dressing station at Wongneichong, was then read into the Court record.

Surrounded

This read, in part: "At about 9 p.m. Lt. Woodside told us that the Japanese had landed on the island. Field Ambulance Headquarters and I think they suggested to him to await local developments. A few hours later we were told that the Japanese had reached the Stubbs Taihang Road Junction. We were in telephone communication with Brigadier Hqs. We waited there for a few hours until we found it impossible to escape. The Japanese had apparently suddenly surrounded our locality.

"It was now about 4 a.m. on December 19. At daybreak we heard a party on the roof trying to force the ventilators open. Later, after a series of explosions we were able to see the St. John's (Ambulance Brigade) bearers and the Indian constable, who were in an adjoining medical shelter, come out of their shelter and surrender. Although the bearers were fully dressed, complete with Red Cross brassards, the Japanese killed everyone.

"We awaited inside the building on the 19th and the morning of the 20th hoping for a possible counter-attack by our forces, but from what we could hear the Japanese forces appeared to be everywhere. Several times they tried to enter, but beyond spraying the doors and windows with bullets, no determined effort was made.

"Captain Barclay during this time was rather worried about our position. Escape was impossible. He did not like surrendering, our rations were low, we had no apparent hope of relief. By the sounds we heard there seemed to be some wounded lying unattended. He said it was our duty to attend to them no matter what nationality they were.

"Eventually he improvised a Red Cross flag and pinned to it a note saying who we were and the fact that we were unarmed. On pushing this through a window he barely escaped being shot as the Japanese opened fire at the first sounds of life. Later we heard a large body assembling round the A.D.S. and some trying to force the doors. So we all came out and surrendered.

"We were beaten, securely tied and our Red Cross brassards torn off. We were then brought before a few officers who did not seem to know much English. After interrogation we were again beaten, Captain Barclay bearing the brunt of it as he did his best to explain our position as Red Cross workers.

"Another prisoner, a Rajput Sepoy, joining our party, said we were driven up the stream along the valley facing the A.D.S. I would estimate there was about one battalion of Japanese troops here and the majority of them were met, although our hands were fastened, seemed to think that we were playing at making the gauntlet.

"We then came to an encampment on the slopes of the valley overlooking the A.D.S. and were fastened to trees. Soon we were blindfolded and, except for a periodic beating, left alone. I think that about 20 or 25 of us were taken to the A.D.S. (Continued on Page 6, Col. 5)

Coming Events

March 15—Races: Third Extra Meeting.
March 16—HKFC Dinner 7.30 p.m.
March 18—Wedding: Kote-wall-Van Bergen 3 p.m.
March 20—H.K. Electric Co. Ltd.—Shareholders—meeting, 11 a.m.
March 20—St. John's Cathedral, annual meeting, 6.30 p.m.
March 21—HKRNVR Informal Mess Night 7.30 p.m.
March 21—Police Reserve Inspector, 5 p.m.
March 22—Bank of East Asia, general meeting, 2.30 p.m.
March 22—Races: Fourth Extra Meeting.
March 23—Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corp. annual meeting, 11.30 a.m.
March 23—Chinese Estates Ltd., shareholders meeting, noon.

POLICE RESERVE

DRILL PARADES. All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend MURRAY PARADE GROUND on Monday, and Wednesday, 17th and 19th March, 1947 at 17.30 hours for Drill Parades. Dress—Uniform. INSPECTION. All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend MURRAY PARADE GROUND on Friday, 21st March, 1947 at 17.00 hours for an inspection by the Commissioner of Police. Dress—Uniform. COMMENDATION. C.I.R. T'o Chi On is commended for the capture of a squatter when on duty. T.O. T'SO. S.S.P. Reserve.

STANDING BY

Honolulu, Mar. 14. The lifeboat which reportedly contained 12 "Fort Dearborn" crewmen has not been sighted by the three rescue vessels which, because of the high waves, have been unable to get close to the floating halves and attempt to bring off the remainder of the crew. The U.S. Army and Navy plan to send out two search rescue planes to look for the lifeboat. The American President Line's "General Gordon" stood seven men in a lifeboat, all of whom were injured. The "Gordon" is standing by along with the "St. John's Victory" and reports the bow of the "Dearborn" is gradually sinking. The freighter "Zelair Stockton" is standing by the stern section ready to attempt a rescue when the seas abate—Associated Press.

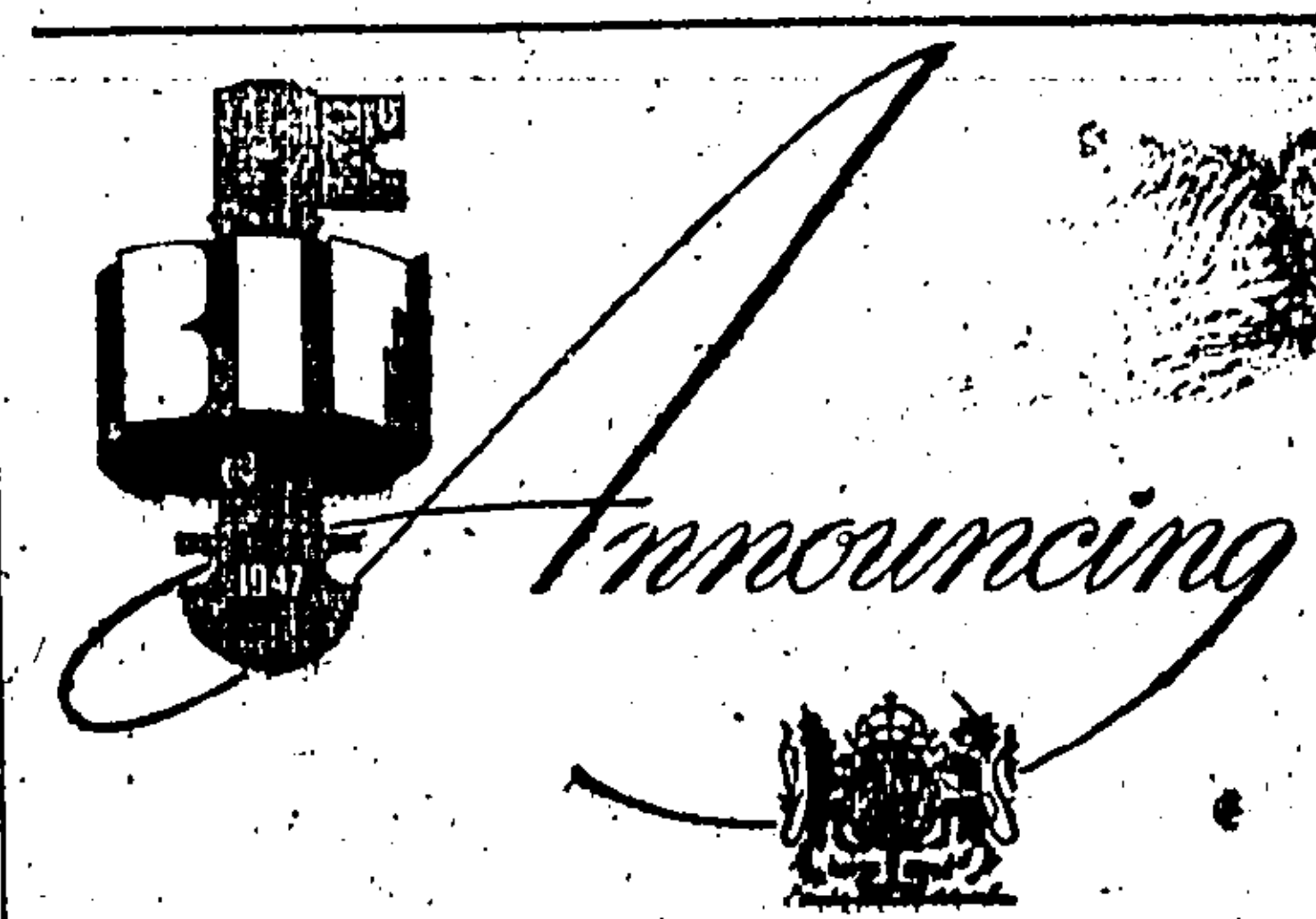
The theft of a diesel engine from Kul Kai aerodrome on Nov. 23, which was recalled before Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday when Yin Lu-sun alias Ah Cheuk, 27, licensed driver 9165, appeared before His Worship charged with aiding and abetting John Lang in the larceny. On the application of S.I. C. J. Askew, accused was remanded three days in Police custody.



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NOTICE TO MEMBERS

THIRD EXTRA RACE MEETING

SATURDAY, 15th March 1947

(Postponed from Saturday, 8th March 1947)

The First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers (8 Races—\$16) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurer, 1st Floor Exchange Building, also tickets for the Special Cash Sweep (\$200) on the last race.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE.

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting. NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member; such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurer's Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tie Tac men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES.

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the enclosure.

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AMERICA'S NEW POLICY Plan By Truman To Prevent War

British Arms For France

London, Mar. 13.
A statement disclosing the scale on which military equipment has been made available by Britain to France since the end of the war was issued by an authoritative source in London this afternoon.

This indicates that recent press reports have somewhat exaggerated the amount in question. The total value of military supplies which have so far been made available by Britain since Lend-Lease came to an end in the summer of 1945, amounts, it is learned, to \$10,000,000.

In addition, France has recently decided to buy equipment for one airborne division costing approximately \$1,700,000. Except for this airborne division, the \$10,000,000 includes all material supplied from Britain and from Commonwealth Overseas for the use of the whole of the French forces. Of this total, the quantity supplied from Singapore for use in Indo-China is said to be small.

It is also authoritatively stated that the French airborne division is expected to be stationed in Metropolitan France, and partly in North Africa, and that nothing is known in London of any intention to send it to the Far East.—Reuter.

Novikov Returns To Moscow

New York, Mar. 13.
The Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Nikolai Novikov, who has been recalled to Moscow for consultations, left New York today in a Scandinavian airplane plane for Copenhagen on his way to Moscow.

On boarding the plane he said: "Before leaving for Moscow on the instructions of my Government, I want to say that I plan to return in a few months and I wish to say good luck and goodbye."

Asked if he would comment on President Truman's speech yesterday, Novikov said: "I have no comment. I have not read it yet."

Asked if the speech had anything to do with his recall, the ambassador said: "No," adding that he bought a ticket a week ago.—Reuter.

Possible Reaction In Russia

New York, Mar. 14.
New developments in U.S. foreign policy do not mean a shooting war. On the contrary, the design is to do what the Western Powers failed to do in the early thirties—prevent war. It is inaccurate to term this a "new policy." In one way it is extension of the Monroe Doctrine from the Western Hemisphere to free peoples everywhere.

President Truman says, in effect, that the United States did not fight the war to exchange one form of totalitarianism for another.

The United States intends to extend a protecting arm abroad against such exchange and establish outposts against penetration into that portion of the world which the United States considers its own.

Although there may be conflict extending over many years, the most immediate effect of such a policy is to diminish the possibilities of an actual war.

In Washington, Senator Ralph Brewster, Republican, commenting on President Truman's speech said: "I am interested in having the administration define the subtle difference between Chinese Communists and Greek Communists."

Representative Alvin Okonski

SHOCK IN MOSCOW

London, Mar. 13.
Summed up by the "Chicago Tribune" as "as cold a war speech against Russia as any President ever made," President Truman's momentous words of yesterday shocked those taking part in the talks on Germany and Austria at the Moscow conference and observers there were asking themselves today whether the new definition of United States foreign policy would affect the planned agenda.

London sources put forward two possibilities of the reaction to the speech, according to Reuters Diplomatic Correspondent, who writes:—

Either the Soviet Government will conceive President Truman's plan as a threat to its influence and even security in world politics and will fight back, or the Soviet Government, impressed by the firmness of United States intentions, will feel itself obliged to co-operate more genuinely with the West than it has done so far.

American comment on the speech ranged from the approval of what the "New York Daily Mirror" called "a firm anti-Communist step," to warnings that the speech represented "undeclared war" against the Soviet Union.

End Of Isolationism
Everywhere it was accepted as the final severance from traditional American policy of isolationism, and this view found favour in Europe too—the entire Italian press seeing the United States assuming the role of the major power in the Mediterranean in place of Great Britain.

The only French comment, however, was that of the Right

Greek Amnesty

Athens, Mar. 13.
Premier Makinos tonight sent a message to President Truman stating that the Greek Government was offering an amnesty to speed the solution of Greece's internal strife.

Constantin Tsaldaris, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, handed Makinos' message to the American Ambassador shortly before 7 p.m. for transmission to the President.

The Liberal leader, M. Sophoulis, also called a message of thanks to President Truman.—United Press.

Strachey Back In London

London, Mar. 13.
The Food Minister, Mr. John Strachey, just back from Washington and Canada, told a press conference that he had arranged for enough deliveries of meat and wheat to sustain Britain's present austerity rationing.

He denied that there was any sign of a food crisis for Britain in the next few months, unless conditions radically altered, which he did not expect.

Following his usual practice, however, he would not predict when bread and meat rationing would end.

He expressed "hope" that bread rationing might end this summer, but admitted "it is just a hope."—United Press.

Red Tape In Macao

Macao, Mar. 12.
The way Hong Kong foreign and vernacular newspapers were conveyed from what to the Censors here was thought tedious and a new system has now been instituted.

On arrival from Hong Kong, the piles of newspapers were taken to the Censors in a row of rickshaws, escorted by a policeman and followed by the vendors.

Now sale agents have to notify Police Headquarters. The Police Headquarters have in turn to phone Military Barracks for the loan of a truck. When this truck arrives, the papers are unloaded from the ship wrapped up in gunny bags.

Then the truck proceeds with the papers, leaving the vendors to choose other means of conveyance for themselves, but they are again needed to unload the papers and take them in to the Censors.

All these new processes imposed mean that papers can only be sold one hour and a half later than usual, with Government using up a quantity of gasoline daily. The public has not benefited although this was perhaps the aim.—Our Own Correspondent.

Greek Welcome

In Greece the single-page papers precluded much comment but the statement was reported under banner headlines.

The Royalist press welcomed it warmly, while the Communist papers decried it strongly. Today the Inner Cabinet drafted a message announcing President Truman's proposals to the Greek people.

An official spokesman stated that the proposals must be interpreted as implying the arrival of American troops in Greece.—Reuter.

R.A.F. Cave Bases To Close Down

Cairo, Mar. 14.
R.A.F. "No. 111" Maintenance Unit, whose shops were scattered through the Tura sand dunes and 5000 year old caves, 14 miles south of Cairo, will close on March 14.

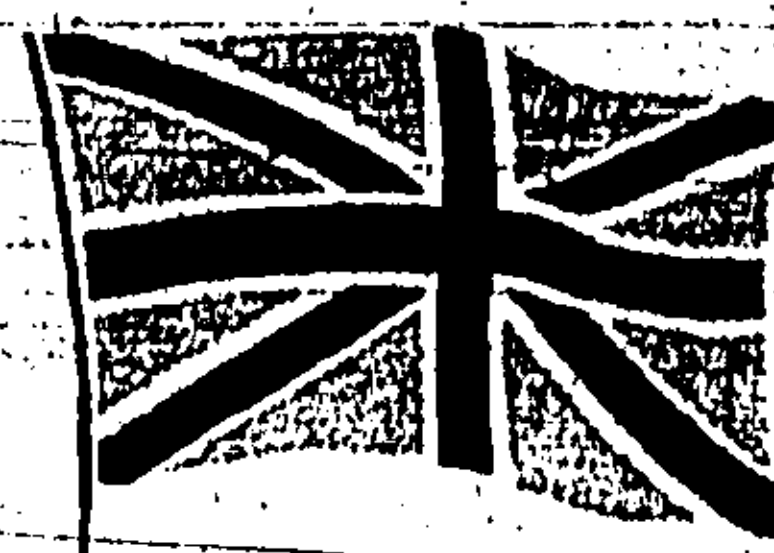
The caves were converted in 1941 to one of the main repair bases for the Royal Air Force during the critical days of the desert battles.

"We'll be returning the weather-beaten Tura caves to the Egyptian Government," an official said, "but what will happen to the offices and fittings is a question now being decided by British stores and disposals experts."

The camp strength has already fallen to 250. Services men and women as British forces are withdrawn to the Canal zone.

"Treble One" grew into a bustling maintenance unit, in the shadow of Rommel's forces. Egyptians, using donkeys and camels, cleared the ancient caves, which were used to house an expanding organisation of repair and maintenance workers.—Associated Press.

Sofia, Mar. 13.
M. George Dimitroff, the Bulgarian Premier, today announced that the Bulgarian Government had decided to pay immediately the balances of the amounts submitted by the diplomatic missions for changing into new bank notes, so that the missions will receive complete compensation following the calling in of Bulgarian currency.—Reuter.



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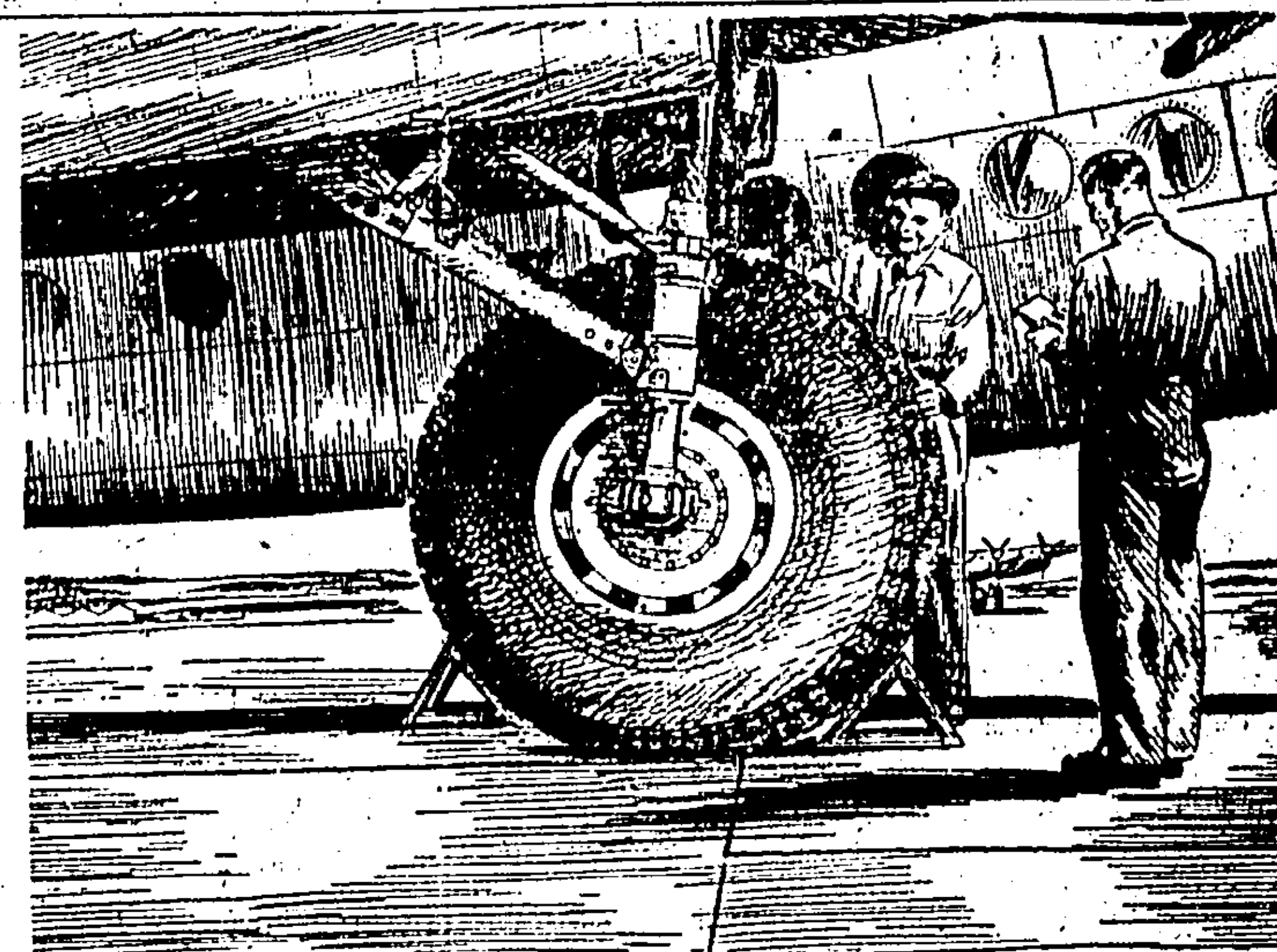
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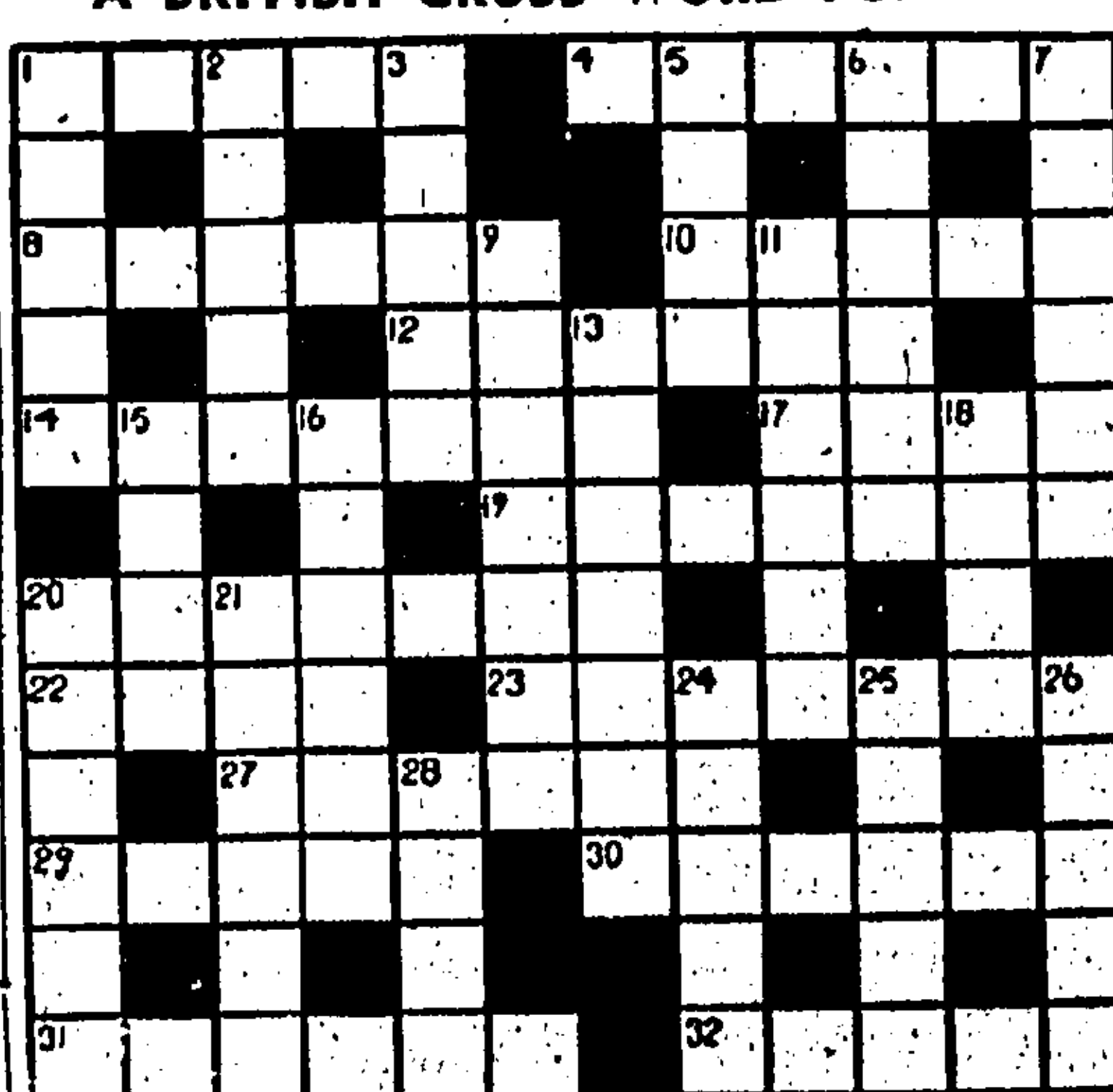
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A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- Entertain.
- Timorous.
- Railwayman.
- Expert.
- Business combine.
- Educational establishment.
- Wine.
- Dirty.
- Talk childishly.
- Reminder.
- Presented for merit.
- Hidden.
- Blaze up.
- Twofold.
- Cultivator.
- Sensational.

Clues Down

- Subject.
- Enlist.
- Thesis.
- Loss strength.
- Disinclined.
- Keep back.
- Orderly.
- Trader.
- Renovated.
- Monster.
- Brood.
- Narrative.
- Gain.
- Attack.
- Coral island.
- Exclude.
- Fear.
- Grant.

Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS—3. Stuffing; 8. Loud; 9. Absolute; 14. Edomite; 15. Lean; 16. Incubate; 18. Teeto; 19. Twin; 21. Dejected; 22. Pine; 23. Taut; 24. Dye.

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